

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 42 of 1899.]

# REPORT

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

ON

FOR THE

Week ending the 21st October 1899.

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## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

| No.          | Names of Newspapers.                           | Places of publication.   | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. | REMARKS. |
|--------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------|
| BENGALI.     |  | CALCUTTA.                |                                 |   |          |
| Weekly.      |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Anusandhan" ...                               | Calcutta ...             | .....                           | 13th October 1899.                                  |          |
| 2            | "Bangabhumi" ...                               | Ditto ...                | .....                           |   |          |
| 3            | "Bangavasi" ...                                | Ditto ...                | 25,000                          |   |          |
| 4            | "Basumati" ...                                 | Ditto ...                | 15,000                          |   |          |
| 5            | "Hitavadi" ...                                 | Ditto ...                | About 6,000                     |   |          |
| 6            | "Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...                         | Ditto ...                | 2,500                           |   |          |
| 7            | "Prativasi" ...                                | Ditto ...                | 3,600                           |   |          |
| 8            | "Samay" ...                                    | Ditto ...                | 3,000                           |   |          |
| 9            | "Samiran" ...                                  | Ditto ...                | .....                           |   |          |
| 10           | "Sanjivani" ...                                | Ditto ...                | 3,000                           |   |          |
| 11           | "Som Prakash" ...                              | Ditto ...                | 1,000                           |   |          |
| 12           | "Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika." | Ditto ...                | .....                           |   |          |
| Daily.       |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Dainik Chandrika" ...                         | Calcutta ...             | .....                           |   |          |
| 2            | "Samvad Prabhakar" ...                         | Ditto ...                | 2,000                           |   |          |
| 3            | "Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...                  | Ditto ...                | 300                             |   |          |
| HINDI.       |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| Weekly.      |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Bharat Mitra" ...                             | Calcutta ...             | 2,000                           |   |          |
| 2            | "Hindi Bangavasi" ...                          | Ditto ...                | 1,000                           |   |          |
| PERSIAN.     |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| Weekly.      |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Hablul Mateen" ...                            | Calcutta ...             | 800                             |   |          |
| 2            | "Mefta-hur-safar" ...                          | Ditto ...                | .....                           |   |          |
| URDU.        |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| Weekly.      |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide."                | Calcutta ...             | 300                             |   |          |
| 2            | "General and Gauhariasfi" ...                  | Ditto ...                | 330                             |   |          |
| BENGALI.     |  | BURDWAN DIVISION.        |                                 |   |          |
| Weekly.      |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Bangabandhu" ...                              | Chandernagore ...        | .....                           | 9th October 1899.<br>11th ditto.                    |          |
| 2            | "Bankura Darpan" ...                           | Bankura ...              | 600                             |   |          |
| 3            | "Burdwan Sanjivani" ...                        | Burdwan ...              | 235                             |   |          |
| 4            | "Chinsura Vartavaha" ...                       | Chinsura ...             | 510                             |   |          |
| 5            | "Education Gazette" ...                        | Hooghly ...              | 1,350                           |   |          |
| 6            | "Medini Bandhav" ...                           | Midnapore ...            | .....                           |   |          |
| 7            | "Pallivasi" ...                                | Kalna ...                | .....                           |   |          |
| BENGALI.     |  | PRESIDENCY DIVISION.     |                                 |   |          |
| Monthly.     |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Sevika" ...                                   | Diamond Harbour ...      | .....                           |   |          |
| Fortnightly. |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Hitakari" ...                                 | Kushtia ...              | .....                           |   |          |
| Weekly.      |  |                          |                                 |   |          |
| 1            | "Basirhat Suhrid" ...                          | Basirhat ...             | .....                           | 11th ditto.   |          |
| 2            | "Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...                     | Berhampore, Murshidabad. | 500                             |   |          |
| 3            | "Pratihar" ...                                 | Ditto ...                | 603                             |   |          |



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—concluded.

| No. | Names of Newspapers.                            | Places of publication.           | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. | REMARKS. |
|-----|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------|
|     | URIYA.<br>Weekly.                               | ORISSA DIVISION.                 |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Sambalpur Hitaishini" ...                      | Bamra, in the Central Provinces. | 500                             | 20th September 1899.                                |          |
| 2   | "Samvad Vahika" ...                             | Balasore ...                     | 150                             |   |          |
| 3   | "Uriya and Navasamvad" ...                      | Ditto ...                        | 376                             | 27th ditto.   |          |
| 4   | "Utkal Dipika" ...                              | Cuttack ...                      | 400                             | 30th ditto.   |          |
|     | HINDI.<br>Monthly.                              | PATNA DIVISION.                  |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Bihar Bandhu" ...                              | Bankipore ...                    | About 600                       |   |          |
|     | URDU.<br>Weekly.                                |                                  |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Al Punch" ...                                  | Bankipore ...                    | 500                             |   |          |
|     | BENGALI.<br>Weekly.                             | CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.           |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Manbhum" ...                                   | Purulia ...                      | .....                           |   |          |
|     | BENGALI.<br>Weekly.                             | RAJSHAHI DIVISION.               |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Hindu Ranjika" ...                             | Boalia, Rajshahi ...             | 300                             | 11th October 1899.                                  |          |
| 2   | "Kangal" ...                                    | Cooch Behar ...                  | 300                             |   |          |
|     | HINDI.<br>Monthly.                              |                                  |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika." | Darjeeling ...                   | .....                           |   |          |
|     | BENGALI.<br>Fortnightly.                        | DACCA DIVISION.                  |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Faridpur Hitaishini" ...                       | Faridpur ...                     | 750                             |   |          |
| 2   | "Kasipur Nivasi" ...                            | Kasipur, Barisal ...             | 300                             |   |          |
| 3   | "Sikshak Suhrid" ...                            | Dacca ...                        | .....                           |   |          |
|     | Weekly.   |                                  |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Barisal Hitaishi" ...                          | Barisal ...                      | 400                             |   |          |
| 2   | "Charu Mihir" ...                               | Mymensingh ...                   | 1,011                           |   |          |
| 3   | "Dacca Prakash" ...                             | Dacca ...                        | 2,400                           |   |          |
| 4   | "Sanjay" ...                                    | Faridpur ...                     | .....                           |   |          |
| 5   | "Saraswat Patra" ...                            | Dacca ...                        | 500                             |   |          |
|     | ENGLISH AND BENGALI.<br>Weekly.                 |                                  |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Dacca Gazette" ...                             | Dacca ...                        | 500                             |   |          |
|     | BENGALI.<br>Weekly.                             | CHITTAGONG DIVISION.             |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Sansodhini" ...                                | Chittagong ...                   | 120                             | 7th October 1899.                                   |          |
| 2   | "Tripura Hitaishi" ...                          | Comilla ...                      | 550                             |   |          |
|     | BENGALI.<br>Fortnightly.                        | ASSAM.                           |                                 |   |          |
| 1   | "Paridarsak" ...                                | Sylhet ...                       | .....                           |   |          |
| 2   | "Silchar" ...                                   | Silchar, Cachar ...              | 375                             |   |          |



# LIST OF THE

| NAME           | RANK       | COMPANY    | REGIMENT   | BATTALION  |
|----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| J. A. BROWN    | CAPTAIN    | 1ST REGT.  | 1ST REGT.  | 1ST REGT.  |
| W. H. JONES    | MAJOR      | 2ND REGT.  | 2ND REGT.  | 2ND REGT.  |
| C. D. SMITH    | LIEUTENANT | 3RD REGT.  | 3RD REGT.  | 3RD REGT.  |
| T. E. WILSON   | CAPTAIN    | 4TH REGT.  | 4TH REGT.  | 4TH REGT.  |
| R. L. GARDNER  | MAJOR      | 5TH REGT.  | 5TH REGT.  | 5TH REGT.  |
| M. K. HARRIS   | LIEUTENANT | 6TH REGT.  | 6TH REGT.  | 6TH REGT.  |
| S. P. MILLER   | CAPTAIN    | 7TH REGT.  | 7TH REGT.  | 7TH REGT.  |
| D. W. TAYLOR   | MAJOR      | 8TH REGT.  | 8TH REGT.  | 8TH REGT.  |
| J. M. ANDERSON | LIEUTENANT | 9TH REGT.  | 9TH REGT.  | 9TH REGT.  |
| A. C. ROBERTS  | CAPTAIN    | 10TH REGT. | 10TH REGT. | 10TH REGT. |
| H. B. LEE      | MAJOR      | 11TH REGT. | 11TH REGT. | 11TH REGT. |
| F. G. WHITE    | LIEUTENANT | 12TH REGT. | 12TH REGT. | 12TH REGT. |
| K. J. BLACK    | CAPTAIN    | 13TH REGT. | 13TH REGT. | 13TH REGT. |
| L. H. GREEN    | MAJOR      | 14TH REGT. | 14TH REGT. | 14TH REGT. |
| P. M. ADAMS    | LIEUTENANT | 15TH REGT. | 15TH REGT. | 15TH REGT. |
| Q. N. HENRY    | CAPTAIN    | 16TH REGT. | 16TH REGT. | 16TH REGT. |
| R. O. THOMAS   | MAJOR      | 17TH REGT. | 17TH REGT. | 17TH REGT. |
| S. T. JACKSON  | LIEUTENANT | 18TH REGT. | 18TH REGT. | 18TH REGT. |
| T. U. KELLY    | CAPTAIN    | 19TH REGT. | 19TH REGT. | 19TH REGT. |
| U. V. LYNN     | MAJOR      | 20TH REGT. | 20TH REGT. | 20TH REGT. |
| V. W. PERKINS  | LIEUTENANT | 21ST REGT. | 21ST REGT. | 21ST REGT. |
| W. X. ROSS     | CAPTAIN    | 22ND REGT. | 22ND REGT. | 22ND REGT. |
| X. Y. STEWART  | MAJOR      | 23RD REGT. | 23RD REGT. | 23RD REGT. |



## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

THE *Pallivasi* of the 11th October complains that the Subdivisional Officer of Kalna seems to be fond of sentencing the accused to whipping. Whipping is a barbarous punishment, and an educated and accomplished gentleman like the Subdivisional Officer ought not to be so fond of that form of punishment. European Magistrates look upon the natives as barbarians, and they may be fond of whipping, but why is a native Magistrate so fond of it? It is a regret that the Deputy Babu has also placed the whipping triangle in front of the Munsif's Court. The Deputy Babu was formerly in Purulia, where he unsparingly whipped the Sonthals and the Dhangars, and he has not yet been able to get rid of that habit. Let us, however, hope that he will give up this habit in Kalna.

PALLIVASI,  
Oct. 11th, 1899.

## (c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

2. The *Sansodhini* of the 7th October complains of mismanagement in the Chittagong District Board. At a meeting recently held, one of the members openly accused Babu Rajani Kanta Ganguli, second clerk of the District Board, of misappropriating one hundred bamboos belonging to the Board. Rajani Babu was present at the meeting, but he did not offer any explanation. A judicial enquiry ought to be made into this complaint.

SANSODHINI,  
Oct. 7th, 1899.

In the survey map of the new canal, no land belonging to Babu Nityananda Ray was included. But it appears that the canal has been cut through his land, and he is demanding compensation. He has made a compromise with the Board, but a member strongly objected to this compromise and demanded an enquiry.

The Commissioner ought to enquire into these complaints of mismanagement against the District Board.

3. The same paper complains of the conduct of the Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Chittagong Hospital. He rarely examines the indoor patients, and is in the habit of abusing those who go to him for medical examination and advice. He needlessly abused the head-master of the local normal school and said that he had syphilis and was concealing it from him. The Assistant Surgeon should be transferred.

SANSODHINI.

4. The *Hitavadi* of the 13th October writes as follows with reference to the bye-elections of the Calcutta Municipality:—

HITAVADI  
Oct. 13th, 1899.

Triumphant Local Self-Government indeed! The Government's intention has been fulfilled! There has been a rush of European and Musalman Commissioners into the Municipality. The Commissionership will now enable many to earn more than they could expect to earn by any other means. It will also enable them to occupy positions of importance and respectability as favourites of the Government. This is a temptation too strong to be resisted. We cannot but regret the conduct of the Musalman community in this matter. The new measure will equally injure the interests of Hindus and Musalmans. Musalmans who have landed property in Calcutta will suffer as much as the Hindus. We, therefore, fail to appreciate the conduct of those Musalmans who stultified the country out of a desire for gain or out of spite for the Hindus.

## (h)—General.

5. The *Pallivasi* of the 11th October complains that letters, &c., are delivered at Kalna very late. The reason is that the mail from Calcutta is despatched to Kalna *via* Pandua and the runner has to run 17 miles. If the authorities arrange for

PALLIVASI,  
Oct. 11th, 1899.



the despatch of the mail *via* Ranaghat and Santipur, letters, &c., may be delivered earlier and replies to them may be posted the very day on which they are received. Under the present system, the trades people have to undergo great loss and inconvenience. The proposed arrangement will not cost the authorities anything more than the pay of an additional runner.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

HITAVADI,  
Oct. 13th, 1899.

6. The *Hitavadi* of the 13th October writes as follows with reference to the Cooly Bill:—

The Cooly Bill.

We do not think that the proposed measure will be able to defeat the sinister motive of the cooly recruiter. We fail to understand why the Government is unwilling to repeal the cooly law. The tea planters are in the habit of saying that the coolies are very well off in the gardens, and some of them become so much attached to them that they do not like to return home. When the tea garden *sardars* return home with their savings they become the object of envy, and their neighbours earnestly desire to go to the tea gardens. We, however, do not believe in these statements. But even if they are true, we do not understand why the cooly law should not be repealed. If the cooly service be a remunerative and comfortable service, labourers will willingly flock to tea gardens, even if there be no such law as the cooly law. The cooly law is, therefore, prejudicial to the interests of the cooly as well as of the planter. Let us say a few words on Act XIII of 1859. By virtue of this Act, the helpless tea-garden coolies are often oppressed. Let an advance payment be shown in the planter's book in the name of a cooly, and he cannot leave the garden before this debt is cleared. It is not always easy to clear this debt. We ask the Governor-General to enquire into this complaint. All the laws regarding the cooly emigration are a discredit to the British Government. We want to see them repealed.

### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

HITAVADI,  
Oct. 13th, 1899.

7. The *Hitaradi* of the 13th October writes as follows:—

The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* inconsistency.

The philanthropists and patriots are doing a great injury to the country by trying to minimise the importance of the last Town Hall meeting to protest against the Calcutta Municipal Bill. The Europeans will never admit that it is the low-minded traitors to the country who are wilfully lying and minimising the importance of that monster meeting. They will lay great stress on the fact that in the opinion of a native paper the Town Hall meeting was a sad failure. It is a great annoyance that these traitors do not understand this. Their tongue is a lying tongue, and even their kindness is dangerous.

Have these people ever had a word of praise to spare for Babu Surendra-nath Banerjee, who has done such a signal service in the Legislative Council? A honeyed tongue cannot conceal a heart of gall. And Raja Binay Krishna? The Raja has spared no pains and expense for the agitation against the Bill in every ward. Formerly the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* was loud in the praise of the Raja. But now the Raja has called Kaliprasanna his "dear friend" in a public meeting, and he must not be spared. The Raja is now a man of straw, and the meeting over which he presided was of little importance. Here is what the *Patrika* writes:—

'Those who asked Raja Binay Krishna to take the chair ought to have borne one thing in mind. This is that at the preceding Town Hall meeting the chair was occupied by Maharaja Narendra Krishna, and Raja Peary Mohan Mukherji and other similarly illustrious speakers addressed the meeting. Now, from the social point of view, Raja Binay Krishna occupies a much lower position than they. At the last Town Hall meeting the chair ought to have been occupied by some one of a higher social status than even Maharaja Narendra Krishna, or at least by some one of an equally high status. If such a man was not available, a mass meeting ought to have been held on the maidan without Rajas and Maharajas.



This is the strain in which the *Patrika* is now writing about the Raja. This was, however, not the tone in which the *Patrika* used to write of the Raja when there was a chance of gaining his favour. In an article headed "Wanted a leader," the *Patrika* once included the Raja's name in the list of those who can be leaders of the whole country. But the remembrance of the carriage and pair has now become faint, and the Raja is no longer fit to be the President of a Town Hall meeting. His name did not even deserve a mention in the *Patrika's* columns. The Raja is the same Raja and the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is the same *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, but yet what a difference, what a change!

We would have nothing to say if the Ghoshes had blamed the Raja for any fault. But no respectable journal ought to soil its columns with needlessly and causelessly abusing a man of the Raja's position, saying that he ought not to have occupied the chair or that he is merely a Raja and not a Bahadur. But let the Raja alone. Is it not a great meanness to try to belittle the importance of the Town Hall meeting? Perhaps the meeting would have been regarded as a great meeting if Mati Babu had been invited to read out his pencil scribbling with a bad pronunciation. The meeting was a meeting of congressists and school boys because this was not done. And these are the men who want to be the leaders of the country!

8. The same paper writes as follows:—

The Darjeeling and the Bhagalpur disaster.

It is said that of Rs. 18,000 which has been raised by the Darjeeling Relief Fund Committee, Rs. 10,000 will be spent in relieving the distress of the European community. This is just what was expected. There is always a great difference between the white and the black. A few European children have perished in the Darjeeling disaster, and Lord and Lady Curzon and Queen Victoria have expressed their sympathy with the distressed people. But no one is saying anything about the Bhagalpur disaster. As for sympathy and collection of subscriptions by the Sheriff, everything depends upon the class of the recipients of relief.

It must be admitted on all hands that, compared with the Bhagalpur disaster, the Darjeeling disaster was of very little significance. About nine thousand huts in the Bhagalpur district have been washed away. An elephant was washed down as far as Murshidabad. The flood-water rose so high that it looked like a wall ten feet high in many places. It has now been ascertained that an area of about seventy-five square miles has been washed of everything it contained. It is, therefore, conjectured that there has been a frightful loss of life. The Government has up to this time received the news of 230 deaths, and estimates the total loss of human life at 600. But the reports of this frightful catastrophe which have reached us do not tally with the official reports.

The cyclone which devastated Bhagalpur reached Darjeeling twelve hours after; yet the news of the Darjeeling disaster came to the public notice one week before the news of the Bhagalpur disaster. The Bhagalpur disaster was a hundred times more serious than the Darjeeling disaster, and yet a quarter of the space of the Anglo-Indian dailies is filled with the reports of the "Darjeeling disaster." Rupees 18,000 has already been raised for the relief of the distressed people of Darjeeling. But what has been raised for the relief of the distressed people of Bhagalpur?

#### URIYA PAPERS.

9. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* of the 20th September requests the public of Sambalpur to establish scholarships to enable the students of Sambalpur schools to prosecute their studies in the Survey and Medical schools of Cuttack.

Scholarships for Sambalpur students.

SAMBALPUR  
HITAISHINI,  
Sept. 20th, 1899.

10. The same paper states that the state of the crops in the Central Provinces and Bombay is very bad. The writer gives a short description of the state of the people in the Western Presidency, and observes that the poor people, unless relieved at an early date, will soon begin to die.

Prospects of the crops and the necessity of relief in the Central Provinces and Bombay.

SAMBALPUR  
HITAISHINI.



URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Sept. 27th, 1899.

UTKALDIPKA,  
Sept. 30th, 1899.

11. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* of the 27th September regrets to notice that the state of the crops in the Puri district is very bad, and that the cultivating classes must soon be overtaken by distress of an acute nature.

12. The *Utkaldipika* of the 30th September requests the people of the Puri district to manufacture *karkach* salt on a better plan and thereby establish that industry on a permanent basis.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,  
*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
*The 21st October, 1899.*